

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraph [0025] of the specification as follows:

According to the above embodiments, and other embodiments falling within the scope of the subject invention, the frit preferably includes a porous support structure made from a material selected from the group of metals, metal alloys, metal oxides, ceramics, and polymers. In certain embodiments, the porous support structure preferably is made from a material selected from the group of sinterable metals, sinterable metal alloys, sinterable metal oxides, sinterable ceramics, and sinterable polymers. Also in certain embodiments, the porous support structure is made from a material selected from the group of stainless steel, titanium, PEEK, polyethylene, Hastaloy™ metal alloys (e.g., metal alloys available under the HASTELLOY® trademark from Haynes International, Inc. of Kokomo, Indiana), polypropylene, Teflon™ synthetic resinous fluorine-containing polymers (e.g., synthetic resinous fluorine-containing polymers available under the TEFLON® trademark from E.I. Du Pont de Nemours and Company of Wilmington, Delaware), glass, silica, titania, and zirconia. A particularly preferred material for the porous support structure is stainless steel, more particularly 316 stainless steel.

Please amend paragraph [0060] of the specification as follows:

Those of ordinary skill in the art will recognize that a variety of combinations of porous support structures and secondary particles can be used. As described above, stainless steel and more specifically 316 stainless steel is a particularly preferred material for the porous support structure. In general, the porous support structure can be a material selected from the group of metals, metal alloys, metal oxides, ceramics, and polymers. Especially for the first embodiment discussed above, the porous support structure can be selected from the group of sinterable metals, sinterable metal alloys, sinterable metal oxides, sinterable ceramics, and sinterable polymers. Preferred materials for the above-

described embodiments include stainless steel, titanium, PEEK, polyethylene, ~~Hastaloy~~TM metal alloys (e.g., metal alloys available under the HASTELLOY® trademark from Haynes International, Inc. of Kokomo, Indiana), polypropylene, ~~Teflon~~TM synthetic resinous fluorine-containing polymers (e.g., synthetic resinous fluorine-containing polymers available under the TEFLON® trademark from E.I. Du Pont de Nemours and Company of Wilmington, Delaware), glass, silica, titania, and zirconia.